Community Hospital Task Force – Updated workplan December 19, 2007

Vision

Sustainable community hospitals that meet community needs and are supported by a payment system that promotes high-quality and cost-efficient care.

Charge

The long-term charge to the Task Force is to recommend changes to health care payment methods used by all payers that realign incentives to promote high-quality and cost-efficient care. The Task Force's first priority is to examine principles for inpatient payment and options for Rhode Island's Medicaid program to implement a case-based inpatient payment methodology based on Medicare. The Task Force will then examine how the recommendations for a case-based inpatient payment method for Rhode Island Medicaid may apply more broadly to other payers.

Elements of a case-based payment method

Payment for Particular DRG =

[Base rate X (DRG weight X policy adjuster weight)] + quality + other policy add-ons

Workplan

The Task Force's charge is to make recommendations on all items in the formula except for the Base Rate.

Status	Element of payment method	On Task Force	Discussion	Date of
		agenda?	date	recommendations
	1. Principles of payment	Yes	11/27/07	1/10/08 report
N/A	2. Base rate	No	N/A	N/A
	3. Recommendation of	Yes	12/12/07,	1/10/08 report
	DRG grouper		12/19/07	
	Initial discussion of design / implementation timeline and implications for commercial payers	Yes	1/7/08	1/10/08 report to include initial findings, recommendations, and timeline
	4. Policy adjuster weights for certain groups of DRGs	Yes	1/22/08, 2/12/08	3/21/08 report
	5. Non-DRG-specific policy-based add-ons (e.g., for quality)	Yes	2/27/08	3/21/08 report
N/A	6. Technical design specifications	No		N/A
	Design / implementation plan and implications for commercial payers	Yes	3/11/08	3/21/08 report to include comprehensive findings, recommendations, plan, and timeline